

30th March 1928]

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“Sir, it is the Governor of Madras.”

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—“Sir, the conversation between me and the Governor is confidential and I cannot talk about it.”

Instructions for preparing matter for presentation to the Simon Commission.

* 1847 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has given or proposes to give any official instructions to the departments under his control for the preparation of any case or materials for presentation to or consideration by the Simon Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons why the Minister proposes to act in contravention of the resolution of this Council not to co-operate?

The President then called on the hon. the Third Minister to give his answers to the question.

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—“Sir, I give the same answer as my hon. Colleagues have done, that the Ministers are not called upon to give information to the Simon Commission.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“Order, order. The time allotted for questions is over. (Loud laughter.)

“The Raja of Ramnad gave notice of a special urgent question and the Minister for Development has given his consent to waive short notice and answer the question, and he is prepared to answer it at 3 p.m. The question will be taken up at 3 o'clock after lunch.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“As a matter of information, Sir, 12 noon. may I ask why the questions Nos. 1845, 1846 and 1847, were not put down for answer yesterday? Because I find that the other questions, notice of which were given on the 23rd March have been marked for being answered on the 29th, whereas I do not find any date marked for these three questions.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“The first date shows when the question was received in the office. The third date shows when the answer was received from the Government, not when the answer was due.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“May I just remind you, Sir, of your promise that we might reopen the question with regard to Mr. Slater approaching Mr. Ramjee Rao, when he is here? Will you please permit it to be taken along with the other question as a special case?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“I want to know what the hon. the Leader of the House has to say in this matter.”

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—“I do not know on what point exactly my opinion is asked, Sir. I certainly do not propose to give the hon. Member any facilities for going through it again.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“As the hon. the Leader of the House, does not propose to give any facilities for that, I cannot allow this to be taken up this evening.”

“The Council will now take up the Budget Demands.”

(For Starred Question No. 1847-A, please see page 250 infra.)